



Watts Up Newsletter

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Reduce your Phantom Load!

Some appliances continue to draw power even when they are switched off. These "Phantom" loads account for 75% of electricity used to power home electronics. Hint: any device that requires resetting after a blackout or power surge is a cause of phantom load.

Green Team Members

Bob Champlin
Ed Emond
Janet Brough
Tim Gossens
Steve Dazell
Eric Greenfield
Joanne Gilbert
Ivy Leavitt-Carlson
Brian Connelly
Joe Sampson
Andy Mercer
Sue Goulet
Eric Cardinal
Anne Barach
Charles Dodson
Ellen Ward
Joanna Bergman
Mitzi Tucker
Bill Caruso
Jeff Twombly
John Leahy
Jared Guilmett
Katie Cook
Megan Guettler
Emily Compton
Alyssa Aalto

40th Anniversary of Earth Day

April of this year, will represent the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. Here are things you can do to help save the planet.

- Sign up at recyclebank.com, and earn points for your eco-friendly actions and receive coupons or gift cards to retailers like iTunes, Gap and Bed Bath & Beyond.
- Visit Earth911.com to search the database for items that you use in day-to-day activities that can and should be recycled. The data-

base will show the nearest recycling drop-off locations.

- Check out elmers-gluecrew.com to learn more about Elmer's Glue recycling program. Last year Elmer's Glue Recycling Program saved



- 2 million glue bottles and glue sticks from going into landfills.
- Do a green home energy audit. Available online at energystar.gov. A complete home energy evaluation will provide you with ways to use less energy and save you money before installing an expensive system.
- Green living doesn't have to be "all or nothing". Start small and see how your efforts can help the planet!

Green Week April 19-23

Monday: Paper Free—classroom teachers will be given packets of 100 "gently used" sheets of paper (from the recycling bins) to use in place of "clean" paper.

Tuesday: Get There Green—students are encouraged to come to school by carpool, bus, walk, or bike.

Wednesday: Lights Out—lights are turned off (at least one set) for a 2 hour period during the day (more if it's a sunny day). 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Thursday: Power Down and Get Out—Turn off lights whenever possible and get outside to clean up school grounds.

Friday: Reduce and Re-use—check to see what your school will be doing. Some schools are doing their book swap on this day. Staff and students are encouraged to only use reusable containers such as stainless steel bottles.